

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07

/046 W

-----191338Z 084878 /41

O 191122Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7601

INFO USUN MISSION NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1585

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

UNCLAS SECTION 1 OF 2 PRETORIA 2474/1

USIA FOR IOP/M, IAA

DEPT. FOR AF/S

VIENNA FOR AMB. BOWDLER WITH VP MONDALE'S PARTY

MAPUTO FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

SUMMARY: REPORTS SPECULATE VORSTER WILL STRESS EXTERNAL FACTORS OF CONCERN TO USG - ESPECIALLY SOVIET INFLUENCE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA - WHILE MONDALE WILL FOCUS ON RSA INTERNAL AFFAIRS, PARTICULARLY RACE POLICY, AND RAISE POSSIBILITY OF PUNITIVE MEASURES. IN EDITORIAL COMMENT, OPPOSITION ENGLISH PAPER CALLS ON VORSTER TO RECOGNIZE "POLITICAL LIABILITY" OF APARTHEID. ALL REPORTS SEE VIENNA MEETING AS "VITAL" OR "CRUCIAL" AND LIKELY TO BE "TOUGH." END SUMMARY

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1. JOHANNESBURG AFRIKAANS "BEELD" FRONT PAGE HEADLINE "VORSTER WILL TALK ABOUT RUSSIANS." REPORT FROM CORRESPONDENT ALF RIES IN VIENNA SAID VORSTER "PARTICULARLY EAGER TO DISCUSS EXPANDING SOVIET INFLUENCE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA" WITH MONDALE BECAUSE SAG SOUGHT "CLARIFICATION" OF USG STANDPOINT. REPORT SAID VORSTER UNCLASSIFIED

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TOLD RSA NEWSMEN HE WAS PREPARED DISCUSS ANY AFRICAN MATTER RELEVANT TO RSA IN LIGHT OF MONDALE'S "RESPONSIBILITY FOR FORGING USG AFRICA POLICY" BUT REFUSED SPECULATE ON SPECIFICS.

2. ABOVE PAPER AND SISTER AFRIKAANS PAPER "DIE BURGER" (CAPE TOWN) BOTH PREDICTED VIENNA TALKS "WILL BE TOUGH AND FRANK, BUT NOT EXPECTED TO BE ONE-SIDED CONDEMNATION OF RSA DOMESTIC POLICY.

MONDALE WILL COMMUNICATE USG STANDPOINT ON NECESSITY FOR RSA INTERNAL CHANGE, WHILE VORSTER WILL BRING HARD FACTS OF RSA AND SOUTHERN AFRICA - ESPECIALLY SOVIET INFLUENCE - TO MONDALE'S ATTENTION. MONDALE WILL BE TOLD SOVIET IMPERIALISM IS CAUSE FOR CONCERN NOT ONLY TO RSA BUT TO USA AND WEST GENERALLY."

3. JOHANNESBURG AFRIKAANS PAPER "DIE TRANSVALER" CARRIED REPORT FROM WASHDC CORRESPONDENT AT DE BEER SAYING USG OFFICIALS "PESSIMISTIC" ON OUTCOME OF VIENNA TALKS. "THEY EXPECT SAG COOPERATION ON RHODESIA AND WA, BUT THE ANTICIPATE NO SUBSTANTIAL CONCESSIONS FROM MR VORSTER ... USG PLAN IS TO INVOLVE RSA IN STRONG, PRO-WEST BLOC EMBRACING ZAIRE, ZAMBIA, ZIMBABWE, MOZAMBIQUE." REPORT SAID PART OF MONDALE'S LEVERAGE WILL BE TO TELL VORSTER HE CAN ANTICIPATE "EIGHT YEARS OF CARTER POLICY TOWARD RSA."

4. SABC RADIO MORNING NEWS REPORTED PRESIDENT CARTER'S MESSAGE FROM L.A. ON EVE OF VORSTER/MONDALE TALKS AND RETOT BY VORSTER THAT LATTER "COULD NOT AND WOULD NOT BELIEVE THE REMARKS ATTRIBUTED TO MR. CARTER?" VORSTER REPORTED TO HAVE REFUSED TO COMMENT FURTHER UNTIL HE HAD CHANCE TO STUDY TEXT OF REMARKS.

5. JOHANNESBURG ENGLISH LIBERAL "RAND DAILY MAIL" HEADLINED FRONT PAGE: "ONE EVE OF VORSTER TALKS U.S. PROBES MANDELA BANISHMENT." ARTICLE SAID BOTH MONDALE AND AMBASSADOR YOUNG HAVE EXPRESSED "INTEREST" IN BANISHMENT, AND AMEMBASSY PRETORIA REPORTED TO HAVE SENT DETAILS TO BOTH AMERICAN DELEGATES. ARTICLE SPECULATED THAT MONDALE MIGHT RAISE ISSUE OF BANISHMENT IN VIENNA DURING TALKS.
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TWO SEPARATE ARTICLES IN SAME PAPER COMMENTED ON VORSTER/MONDALE TALKS. REPORT FROM VIENNA SAID WHILE SWA INDEPENDENCE UNDER MAJORITY RULE IS SPECIFIC ISSUE AT TALKS, "OVERRIDING GENERAL ISSUE IS STILL U.S. DETERMINATION TO CONVINCE VORSTER IT MEANS BUSINESS WHEN IT SAYS APARTHEID IN SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF MUST BE LIBERALIZED" AND U.S. WILL REACT IN WAYS OF SERIOUS CONSEQUENCE FOR RSA IF APARTHEID IS NOT RELAXED. PRESIDENT CARTER'S REMARKS THAT IF RSA DIDN'T WITHDRAW "WHITE DOMINATION" FROM SWA, FIVE WESTERN COUNTRIES WOULD MOVE AGAINST RSA AT U.N. SAID TO "SET THE TONE" FOR TODAY'S MEETING. OTHER ARTICLE WRITTEN BY POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT ALSO COMMENTED ON PRES. CARTER'S "WARNING (WHICH WILL) LOOM OVER THE MEETING." REPORT SPECULATED THAT POSSIBLE MEASURES CONTEMPLATED BY U.S. INCLUDED ENDING FISCAL AND CREDIT COOPERATION. INCLUDING GOVT-BACKED TAX CREDITS FOR INVESTMENT IN RS; END OF INTELLIGENCE COOPERATION; WITHDRAWAL OF MILITARY AND SCIENTIFIC PERSONNEL WHO WORK IN RESEARCH AND SATELLITE-TRACKING; SYSTEMATIC DISINVESTMENT; JOINING OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES

IN APPLYING ECONOMIC SANCTIONS; REAPPRAISAL OF U.S./RSA
COOPERATION IN NUCLEAR ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT;
ACTION BY U.S. FIRMS TO TEAR DOWN RACE BARRIERS AFFECTING
PAY, WORKING CONDITIONS, SKILLS AND SOCIAL MIXING; TIGH-
TENDING VISA REQUIREMENTS, WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. MILITARY
ATTACHE; IN THE U.N. REFRAINING FROM VETOING
ANTI-APARTHEID RESOLUTIONS. ARTICLE ENDED SAYING IT IS UN-
CERTAIN HOW FAR MONDALE AND STATE DEPT HAVE GONE IN DE-
CIDING WHAT TACTICS TO ADOPT, BUT MONDALE WILL DECIDE
AFTER VIENNA ON BASIS OF COOPERATION FROM SAG WHETHER
ANY OF ABOVE MEASURES SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED IMMEDIATELY.

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 PA-02 PRS-01 INR-07
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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE

SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7602

INFO USUN MISSION NEW YORK IMMEDIATE 1586

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY VIENNA IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

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USIA FOR IP/M, IAA

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6. CONSERVATIVE JOHANNESBURG ENGLISH PAPER "THE CITIZEN" CARRIED
REPORT FROM VIENNA CORRESPONDENT QUOTING MONDALE WHEN ASKING IF USG
"HAD LIST OF OPTIONS FOR ACTION AGAINST RSA SHOULD TALKS FAIL."
MONDALE REPORTEDLY SAID: "THERE ARE DISCUSSIONS OF SUCH REMEDIES
AROUND. I WOULD NOT DENY THAT. BUT I DON NOT PROPOSE AT THIS MEETING
TO REVIEW SUCH A LIST."

7. SAME PAPER QUOTED VORSTER (1) TELLING AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT HE BELIEVED TALKS IMPORTANT FOR WEST "BECAUSE OF ITS DEPENDENCE ON CAPE SEA ROUTE"; (2) TELLING RSA NEWSMEN "THIS WILL BE MOST IMPORTANT MEETING OF MY WHOLE CAREER"; AND (3) TELLING AUSTRIAN TV NETWORK HE WOULD "STAND FIRM" ON RSA APARTHEID POLICIES.
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8. IN ONLY EDITORIAL COMMENT MORNING MAY 19, CAPE TOWN ENGLISH PAPER "CAPE TIMES" SAID IT WAS IN "CRUCIAL INTRESTS" OF RSA TO REMAIN ON GOOD TERMS WITH USA. "TO SUGGEST WE TURN OUR ATTENTION AWAY FROM WEST IS NOT EVEN WORTH CONSIDERING AS TACTICAL PLOY," PAPER REMARKED "KEY WESTERN STATES ARE MOVING PERCEPTIBLY TO SIDE OF BLACK LIBERATION - MORALLY IF NOT MILITARILY. WAY TO ARREST THIS PROCESS IS TO ACHIEVE DISPENSATION IN RSA WHICH RECONCILES BLACK LIBERATION WITH WHITE EXISTENCE. MR VORSTER SHOULD BY NOW REALIZE APARTHEID IS POLITICAL LIABILITY TO BE SHED IN INTERESTS OF BETTER RAPPORT WITH WESTERN COMMUNIT. BUT WILL HE DO IT ON CONVINCING SCALE ? ON OTHER HAND, MR MONDALE SHOULD BE LEFT IN NO DOUBT AS TO FUTILITY OF INSISTING WHITES CAPITULATE TO BLACK DOMINATION. WAY SHOULD BE FOUND TO SATISFY BOTH BLACK AND WHITE ASPIRATIONS VIENNA TALKS CAN MARK BEGINNING OF LONG AND DIFFICULT ROAD TO PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA'S RICHEST AND MOST ADVANCED REGION, OR CAN MARK POINT AT WHICH SOUTHERN AFRICA BEGINS LONELY SLIDE TO RICIAL DISASTER."

NOTE: ARTICLE ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG RSA VISIT IN JOHANNESBURG AFRIKAANS PAPER "DIE TRANSVALER" MAY 19 TRANSMITTED SEPTTEL.HUGHES

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Message Attributes

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